



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/602,976	06/20/2003	Jean-Pierre Sommadossi	06171.IDX 1007 CONS	2062
20786	7590	05/19/2005		EXAMINER
KING & SPALDING LLP 191 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E. 45TH FLOOR ATLANTA, GA 30303-1763			OWENS JR, HOWARD V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1623	

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/602,976	SOMMADOSSI ET AL.
	Examiner Howard V. Owens	Art Unit 1623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 89 and 130-197 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 183-197 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 89, 130, 132-134 and 136-182 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 131 and 135 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

Response to Arguments

The following is in response to the amendment filed 1/12/05:

An action on the merits of claims 89 and 130 - 197 is contained herein below.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims withdrawn from consideration

Newly submitted claims 183 - 97 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:

Claims 183 – 197 set forth imidazolopyridine, triazolopyridine and pyrazolopyrimidine bases for a 2'-C-branched nucleoside. The generic recitation of this compound expands the structure from that set forth in the original claims wherein specific substituents are present for the sugar moiety. Although the 2' position of the sugar is indicated as being branched, the language is so generic as to include substituents on the 3' and 5' position that could change both the class and subclass of the compound.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 131 and 135 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 131 and 135 recite the limitation "R²" in R⁷ and R⁹. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The rejection of claims 89, 130, 132, 135, 137, 139, 142, 144 – 153 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Koszalka et al., WO 9401117 is withdrawn in view of applicant's amendment to the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The rejection of claims 89, 130, 132, 135, 137, 139 and 142 - 153 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Koszalka et al., WO 9401117 is withdrawn in view of applicant's amendment to the claims.

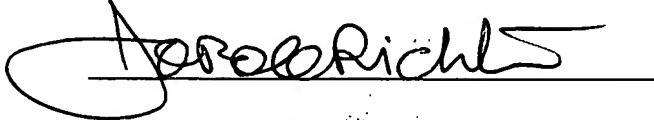
Allowable Subject Matter

The 2', 3' substituted nucleosides and nucleotides of claims 89, 130, 132-134 and 136-182 contain subject matter allowable over the closest prior art of record, Koszalka et al., WO 9401117.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Howard V. Owens
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1623


for James O. Wilson
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Howard Owens whose telephone number is (571) 272-0658 . The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Supervisory Patent Examiner signing this action, James O. Wilson can be reached on (571) 272 - 0661